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WE ARE ALL FAMILY

MAY 20, 1996

PRESS RELEASE

Today the United States Supreme Court ruled "6 to 3" that Amendment 2, Colorado's discriminatory anti-gay ordinance, is unconstitutional. Basing their decision on the "Equal Protection Clause" of the Constitution, this conservative court found that it is patently unconstitutional to define a class or group of people and then set about to deny them access to remedies to correct claims of discrimination.

Ground Zero is obviously pleased. A" 6 to 3" decision is a definitive statement by the court that this type of discrimination against gays and lesbians, or any marginalized group of people, cannot be tolerated. We know, however, that this is not the end to this fight by gays and lesbians for equality under the law.

Across America, Religious Political Extremists and their supporters are moving to eliminate gays and lesbians from viable participation in government and society. This is a frightening circumstance not only for gays and lesbians but for all people who stand in the minority and who may next be the target for these extremists.

Ground Zero pledged some five months ago that we would not, no matter what the decision, seek to introduce a new initiative on the people of Colorado in the foreseeable future. We did this with in belief that the people want and deserve a break from the extreme political rhetoric that a new campaign would bring.

Believing that education and community outreach is the best method to bring about an end to acceptance of the myths, lies and stereotypes preached by the extreme right about gays and lesbians, Ground Zero will continue its efforts in these areas. Only as the general population gets to know better who we really are will we see a major improvement in the discrimination and prejudice being exhibited today against gays and lesbians.

Tonight at 6 pm, the Colorado Springs gay and lesbian community will gather in celebration of this major and welcomed decision. Tomorrow, we will catch our breath and decide the specifics of our future activities. For now, we ask the questioning of the community. Don't you think it is now time to seek avenues by which we may mend.

GROUND ZERO

P. 0 BOX 1982
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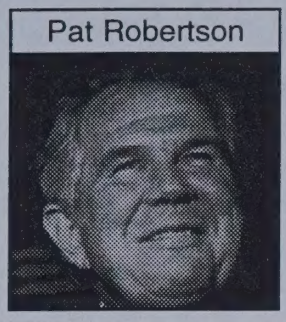

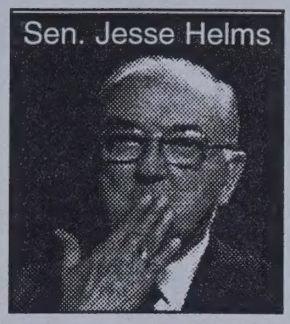

WE ARE ALL FAMILY

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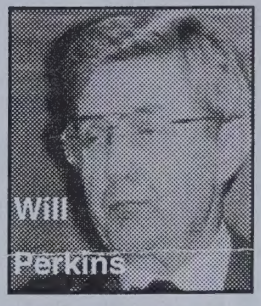
THEY'RE STILL OUT THERE AND THEY'RE STILL OUT TO GETCHA



COLORADO'S ATTORNEY GENERAL APPEALS AMENDMENT 2 DECISION TO U.S. SUPREME COURT.

COLORADO FOR FAMILY VALUES AND THE RADICAL RIGHT ARE INTENSIFYING THEIR EFFORTS TO DISENFRANCHISE YOU FROM VIABLE PARTICIPATION IN GOVERNMENT AND SOCIETY.

WILL PERKINS ANNOUNCES THAT IF AMENDMENT TWO IS DECLARED UNCONSTITUTIONAL, THERE'S ANOTHER ONE READY TO GO.

HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSIONS AND CIVIL RIGHTS BODIES ARE BEING ATTACKED AND DISBANDED BECAUSE THEY MIGHT ACTUALLY TALK TO GAY CITIZENS.

YOUTH SEEKING HELP IN FINDING THEIR SEXUALITY OR RESOLVING ISSUES IN REGARD THEIR SEXUALITY DENIED ACCESS TO SCHOOL COUNSELING.

VIOLENCE AGAINST LESBIANS AND GAYS ACROSS AMERICA IS INTENSIFYING AS THE HATE CAMPAIGN AGAINST US INTENSIFIES.

DURING THE AMENDMENT TWO CAMPAIGN, COLORADO FOR FAMILY VALUES SAID THAT ITS ONLY INTEREST WAS STATE LAW IN COLORADO--SINCE THEN, THEY HAVE PROVEN THEIR TRUE INTENTIONS ON ALL LEVELS--IN EMPLOYMENT, IN HOUSING AND IN PUBLIC ACCOMMODATIONS. THEY WANT TO ELIMINATE GAYS AND LESBIANS!!! AND BARRING THAT, THEY WANT TO DENY US ANY CONSIDERATION OR EVEN THE MOST BASIC HUMAN AND CIVIL RIGHTS THOUGHOUT THE UNITIED STATES..

TURN THE PAGE OVER FOR MORE

THERE'S GOOD NEWS

While Gay and Lesbian Organizations continue to bicker around the country, the Colorado Springs Community is growing closer and working together more now than ever.

In a dramatic next step we are preparing to open a real "fulltime" REGIONAL Gay Center in partnership with The Pikes Peak Gay and Lesbian Community Center and other local LESBIAN AND GAY organizations (estimated opening Feb, '95). This Center will have offices for a number of groups and meeting space (up to 125), a lounge area and library and social/recreational amenities. It is indeed a giant step forward for the Community and truly shows what you can do when you work together.

And the good news continues--Ground Zero has arranged for over a third of the monthly base cost of the operation to be paid by a foundation.

AND THERE'S NOT SO GOOD NEWS

At the end of two years of operation, and after a year of especially significant support for the community and for gay rights, GROUND ZERO finds itself in a findnacial cash flow CRUNCH. Quite frankly, the level of support from you, the community, is at an all time low at a time (Winter) when contributions are slow to begin with.

In order to finalize our share of the Gay Center, make the move, help equip it, and, even more significant, in order for us to continue to exist, we *URGENTLY* need your help. We must improve our cash picture immediately.

This is not just a ploy to get a few more bucks out of you. The situation is critical, both for our continued survival and for continued work to open the GAY CENTER.

It is essential that we not let down our guard now. We must continue to outreach to our own community, build coalitions and work through education and community involvement to combat the myths, stereotypes and lies that continue to be used against us.

IT IS IMPORTANT THAT YOU SEND YOUR CONTRIBUTION TODAY--THIS MINUTE--THAT WE MAY GO FORWARD!!!!

Whether its $5.00 or $500, it is important to help now!!

Additionally, persons or organizations who will pledge sustaining memberships of $40 a month or more, will get twice their money's worth as the GILL FOUNDATION will match their donation. If you can't afford $40, get together with a friend and pledge twenty each.

Fill out the enclosed card and return with your contribution today.

One time pledges and sustaining member pledges may be charged to your Visa and Master Cards.

SEND YOUR *TAX DEDUCTIBLE* CONTRIBUTION TODAY!!!